

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/556,349

Examiner

Anthony Mackowey

Applicant(s)

GONG ET AL.

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment After Final filed 30 September 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 7, 9, 31, 37, 39, 73-76, 79, 83-93, 96 and 100-106; renumbered 1-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20051020.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JINGGE WU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul Wilson (Reg. No. 45,879) on October 20, 2005. The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 97-99

The page containing Claims 105 and 106 was inadvertently left out of the listing of claims in Amendment After Final filed September 30, 2005. Claims 105 and 106 were previously presented in the previous amendment filed March 28, 2005 and are addressed in the Remarks section of the Amendment After Final filed September 30, 2005. Listing of claims should include claims 105 and 106 as follows:

105. The computer-readable medium of claim 103, wherein said first cluster is composed of frames based on a distance variation between said frames and an average distance between frames in said first cluster.

106. The computer-readable medium of claim 103, wherein each of said plurality of clusters is composed of frames based on a distance variation between said frames and an average distance between frames in said each of said plurality of clusters.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 7, 9, 31, 37, 39, 73-76, 79, 83-93, 96 and 100-106 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 and 31 recite,

locating the video shot Θ_i in each cluster S_i having the greatest length;

determining how the video shots in each cluster will be arranged according to

$C \leq N = T_{\text{len}}/T_{\text{max}}$

wherein C represents a number of clusters; and

wherein N represents the maximum number of video shots;

if $C \leq N$, then all the video shots in each cluster is included in said input video

sequence summary; and

if $C > N$, then sort each video shot Θ_i from each cluster S_i in descending order by

length, select the first N video shots for inclusion in said input video sequence summary and

assign time length T_{len} to each selected video shot.

The features, as explicitly recited above, and in combination with the other elements of the claims are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record. Claims 7, 9, 73-76, 79 and 83-89 depend from claim 1. Claims 37, 39, 90-93, 96 and 100-106 depend from claim 31.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

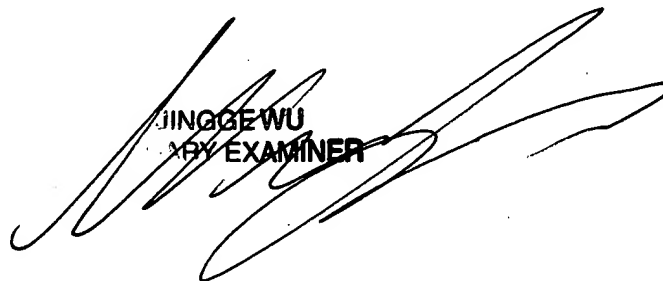
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Mackowey whose telephone number is (571) 272-7425. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jingge Wu can be reached on (571) 272-7429. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AM
10/20/2005


JINGGEWU
BY EXAMINER